

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Cause No.: DA 09-0510

STATE OF MONTANA, ex rel.
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY,

PLAINTIFF/APPELLANT and CROSS-APPELLEE

FILED

V.

MAY 1 8 2010

BNSF RAILWAY COMPANY,

Ed Smith
DEFENDANT/APPELLEE and CROSS-APPELLAN STATE OF MONTANA

## AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PERMISSION TO EXCEED WORD LIMITATION IN APPELLANT'S COMBINED REPLY BRIEF/ CROSS-APPEAL ANSWER BRIEF

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Attorney for Appellee / Cross-Appellant

On Appeal from the First Judicial District Court, Lewis and Clark County
The Honorable Jeffrey M. Sherlock, Presiding
District Court Cause No. BDV 2004-596

STATE OF MONTANA ) : ss. County of Lewis & Clark )

R. ALLAN PAYNE, of Helena, Montana, being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

- 1. Affiant is an attorney with Doney Crowley Bloomquist Payne Uda P.C., which represents the Appellant State of Montana *ex rel*. Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") in the above-captioned matter, and has personal knowledge of the matters herein.
- 2. On or about May 17, 2010, Appellee/Cross-Appellant BNSF Railway Company filed a Combined Answer and Cross-Appeal Brief.
- 3. The 5,000 word limit for DEQ's Combined Reply Brief/Cross-Appeal Answer Brief, set forth in M. R. App. P. 12(4) and 11(4)(a), is insufficient given the circumstances of this case.
- 4. This Appeal is the first time the Montana Supreme Court will fully interpret numerous provisions of Montana's Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act, Mont. Code Ann. §§ 75-10-701, et seq. ("CECRA"). Most importantly, this Court will clarify the scope of DEQ's authority under CECRA to set environmental standards for toxic waste cleanups, and the meaning and reach of CECRA's joint and several

liability scheme. The Appeal also raises constitutional issues and tort issues of first impression with this Court.

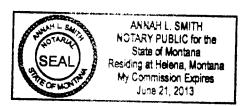
- 5. These legal issues are of seminal importance to State regulators, property owners (including potentially liable parties), and the citizens of Montana whose health, safety, and well-being depends on DEQ's management and cleanup of toxic waste sites.
- 6. Based on the importance of the legal issues for this Court and all Montanans, DEQ cannot fully and fairly reply to and answer BNSF's Response and Cross-Appeal within 5,000 words.
- 7. Further, the 5,000 word limit is insufficient for a combined Reply and Cross-Appeal Answer Brief. While an Answer Brief is generally considered a "principal" brief and allowed 10,000 words and a Reply brief is allowed 5,000 words (M. R. App. P. 11(4)(a)), a brief *combining* an Answer to a Cross Appeal and a Reply to Appellee's Brief is limited to 5,000 words. M. R. App. P. 12(10). In this situation, DEQ is, therefore, required to do twice the work in half the space.
- 8. Given the number and extraordinary weight of the legal issues before this Court, Affiant believes it is just and reasonable to increase

DEQ's Combined Reply Brief/Cross-Appeal Answer Brief word limit from 5,000 to 7,500 words.

DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2010.

R. Allan Payne

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me, the undersigned, by R. ALLAN PAYNE, this  $18^{1/2}$  day of May, 2010.



Annah L. Smith

Notary Public for the State of Montana

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the /8 day of May, 2010, a true and correct copy of the foregoing *AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR*\*\*PERMISSION TO EXCEED WORD LIMITATION IN APPELLANT'S

\*\*COMBINED REPLY BRIEF/CROSS-APPEAL ANSWER BRIEF\* was duly served via First Class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the attorneys of record addressed as follows:

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Jeri L. Hoffman, ACP